

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : John H. Shaddock
Appl. No. : 10/699,747
Filed : November 3, 2003
For : INSTRUMENTS AND
TECHNIQUES FOR
CONTROLLED REMOVAL OF
EPIDERMAL LAYERS
Examiner : Vy Q. Bui
Group Art Unit : 3773

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January 22, 2010

(Date)

/Theodore G. Papagiannis/

Theodore G. Papagiannis, Reg No 61,546

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowability mailed December 14, 2009, Applicant respectfully submits the following comments.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that any limitations recited by the Examiner are not present in all of the allowed claims. For example, not all the claims include an abrasive structure having sharp elements, or an aperture and an abrading structure circumscribed within a raised outer periphery. Also, to the extent that there is any implication that the patentability of the claims rests on the recitation of a single feature, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's Statement because it is the combination of features that makes the claims patentable.

In addition, Applicant respectfully asserts that the dependent claims are patentable because they depend from an allowable base claim and/or because they recite independently patentable features.

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Accordingly, Applicant reserves the right to argue that the claims of the present application are allowable because each of the claims recites a combination of features that are not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: January 22, 2010

By: /Theodore G. Papagiannis/
Theodore G. Papagiannis
Registration No. 61,546
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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